THE LAKE CREEK LETTER

A Publication of the Lake Creek Historical Society

Volume 16, Number 1 Summer 2009

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is much more than a three-day weekend that marks the beginning of summer. To many people, especially the nations' thousands of combat veterans, this day, which has a history stretching back all the way to the Civil War is an important reminder of those who died in the service of their country.

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nations dead by decorating their graves. By proclamation of General John S. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion. And those bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstance may permit.

Information from:www.history.com, Memorial Day-The History of Memorial Day.

This year MEMORIAL DAY IS OBSERVED ON MAY 25TH.

LAKE CREEK CEMETERIES

Memorial Day is just around the corner so I thought this would be a good time to mention that there are three Cemeteries in the Lake Creek area. ALL ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

BRADLEY CEMETERY

In an article from the Medford Mail Tribune, written by Marjorie O'Hara, on 20 Aug. 1969. She was interviewing, Mr. McPherson. He said, "Lawson and Angeline were his great-grandparents and Lucinda was their daughter. They had three other children, Loussia, my grandmother, Ola and Jay. Luzern was Lawson's brother".

"The Bradley's came here from Iowa with an emigrant train in 1865," McPherson went on."Lawson had been in the mercantile business in the mid-west, but he sold out, bought wagons and brought his family to the Lake Creek country where they took up a homestead. They wanted this foothill land for range for their cattle. They built a log house near the spring. Later, it burned." (con't)

NEW OPEN HOURS FOR THE HALL:

WED, FRI, SAT 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

(con't)

" Lawson was 57 when he was kicked to death by a stallion in 1875. His grave was the oldest in the little cemetery and his gravestone is the one engraved with an open Bible."

"Three years later, Lucinda died at the age of 16, and the following year, Luzern died at the age of 63. Angeline lived until 1894. She died in Uncle George Nichol's house and cousin Meda Butler, who lives in Redmond, remembers them bringing her down the stairs."

Lawson Bradley, b-11 July 1818 OH, d-16 Sept. 1875
Lucinda Bradley, b-23 March 1862 IA, d-25 April 1867
Luzern Bradley, b-12 March 1816 OH, d-6 Dec.1879
Angeline Bradley, b-29 April 1827 OH, d-10 Jan. 1894

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LAKE CREEK CEMETERY

I found this letter in the office of the LCHS. It was not signed, so I do not know who wrote it.
But I wanted to share it at this time. I will continue doing research on this cemetery, with the owner's permission.

"Many people don't even know there is such a place, at Lake Creek. However, these people are some more of our early Pioneers, very honorable, and well thought of people! People who loved Lake Creek so much, that they wanted to be laid to rest here on this quiet hill over looking the valley." (Unable to put the complete description or area-Private Property)

HOEFFT FAMILY

Karl Hoefft- Father
Louisea Hoefft-Mother, b-1856, d-16 April 1905
Henry Hoefft-Son
Charles H. Hoefft-Son, b-1885, d-21 Aug. 1916
Wilhelmina Hoefft-Daughter, Married Authur E.Edwards 21 Sept.1898
Elizabeth Hoefft-Daughter, b-1883

PECK FAMILY

Frederick Peck- Father
Maggie Peck-Mother
Gustuff Peck-Son, b-Oct.1879

Pech baby child of Rudolph and Minnie Pech.

EDLER FAMILY

August Edler-Father
August (Gus) Edler-Son
Charles Edler-Son
Henry Edler-Son

John Engle a very good friend of the Hoefft family is also buried there.

The dates I found on Internet web pages:
www.heritagequestonline.com or
www.rootsweb.com

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DOWNING FAMILY

Frederick Downing, b-Nov.10, 1823 MA, d-March 10, 1896
Herman Downing, b-1879, d-Jan. 1882

The land owner of this cemetery has put up a beautiful picket fence around the family plot.

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BROWNSBORO CEMETERY

There are a lot of descendants from the Lake Creek area buried in this beautiful cemetery. The President and Sexton of this cemetery is Wayne Marshall. He can be reached at 973-8416

LLOYD ALFRED WALCH

Lloyd Alfred Walch, 91, left this earth for his heavenly home on Friday, March 20, 2009. He passed away at his home with his family by his side.

Lloyd was born Dec.19, 1917, in Lake Creek, Ore., the second child of John Wesley Walch and Ida Marie Newstrom Walch. On Jan.10, 1947, in Central Point, Ore., he married Margaret Arglee Williams, who survives. They lived their married life of 62 years in Central Point, and raised their three sons.

Lloyd grew up on his parent's ranch in Lake Creek with his four siblings. He graduated 8th grade in the one room Lost Creek School. From 1938 through 1941 he was employed with the U.S. Forest Service and worked on the construction of the Pacific Crest Trail. He also manned several fire lookouts.

At the beginning of World War II, he moved to San Francisco Bay area and went to work as a welder. He worked in Kaiser Ship Yard #4 in Richmond and added his welds to many cargo and troop landing ships. Later in the war he enlisted in the United States Coast Guard and following training, served as armed security for the Kaiser Ship Yards. Following his discharge from the Coast Guard in September 1945, he moved back to the Rogue Valley where he met and married Margaret.

They were charter members of Community Bible Church in Central Point, and attended there for many years.

Lloyd was employed in the timber industry most of his working life. He worked many years as a moulder operator for Cascade Wood Products. He retired in 1982 as head moulder operator for Medford Moulding Company, White City. Following retirement, Lloyd enjoyed spending winters with Margaret in Quartzite, Ariz. He loved exploring desert on his ATV.

Lloyd was a gifted craftsman and enjoyed working in his shop where he made many beautiful lapidary items and interesting lamps from manzanita wood. He was an avid angler and hunter his entire life. A trophy blacktail deer he bagged in 1968 still retains a place in the record book of Northwest Big Game of Oregon. Lloyd loved Lake Creek and spent many hours through the years maintaining Walch Park adjacent to the Lost Creek Covered Bridge, which is dedicated to his parents.

In addition to his wife, Lloyd is survived by sisters, Betty Payne (Herb) of White City,Ore and Shirley Stone, of Lake Creek, Ore; his three sons, Ronald and wife, Judi, of Lake Creek, Ore., Richard and wife, Charlie, of Medford, Ore., and Russell and wife, Debra, of Medford, Ore.; grandchildren, Aimee Kuhlman (Jason), Jennifer Brown (Don), Andrew, Brittany, and Shelly Walch; granddaughter-in-law, Sarah Walch; and eight great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, John Walch, Jr.; sister, Margaret Hansen; infant sister, Catherine May Walch; and grandson Rick Walch.

He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

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GRANDPA WALCH

G is for your mischievous Grin. You could always make someone smile.

R is for Lake Creek Ranch. Your heritage was important to you and you passed that pride down to your family.

A is for Artisan. You loved to go exploring and found much joy in finding items to fashion into rustic art.

N is for Neighborhood. Whenever I think of you, I always think of 647 Cherry St

D is for Dependable. You were a quiet, humble man, but if anyone needed you, you were there to lend a helping hand..

P is for Park. You spent many hours taking care of the Walch Park making sure it was a worthy place to attach your family's name.

A is for Always there. You lived such a long and happy life filled with family.

W is for summertime Walks around the block sharing time with your granddaughter.

A is for Admirable. You lived your life as a hard worker who took care of his family.

L is for your Lapidary. You loved spending hours working in here and took much pride in your creations.

C is for the blue Chevy truck parked along Cherry St.

H is for Hunter. You loved spending time in the woods hunting and fishing. It was a big part of who you were.

These are only a few of the things I think about when I think of Grandpa Walch. He was not just a grandpa; he was indeed a grand person.

By granddaughter Aimee Kuhlman

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HAROLD CLINTON MEYER

There was a celebration of life for Harold Meyer, 82, of Eagle Point, Ore., On Dec. 23, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at Padgham Pavilion at the Jackson County Expo Park and Fair Grounds, Central Point. He passed away on Dec.18, 2008, in Medford.

Born March 6, 1926, to Henry C.(Dutch) and Hazel M. (Tetherow) Meyer on Hanley Rd. in Central Point, Harold was a member of a pioneer family that homesteaded in the Lake Creek area in the 1870's. He later moved to the family ranch on Salt Creek.

He served with the U. S. Navy aboard the USS Willard Keith during WWII. On Feb.19, 1946, he married Lillian A. Damon in Central Point. He is survived by his wife, Lillian, of Eagle Point; five children, Elaine Steel, of Canby, Gloria and Daryl Atwood, of Newberg, Gary and Jeanna Meyer, of Eagle Point, Don and Kari Meyer, of Christmas Valley, and Helen and Art Morgan, of Roseburg; 15 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren and one on the way.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Friends of Eagle Point FFA.

The LCHS wish to apologize to the family for not putting this in the last newsletter.

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* WEDDING*

Gloria Brogan daughter of Harold and Lillian Meyer will wed on Aug.15, 2009, to Daryl Atwood at the Lake Creek Pioneer Hall.

Gloria's grandparents were Henry (Dutch) and Hazel Meyer and Lloyd and Elda (Farlow) Damon. Both grandparents were property owners in the Lake Creek area.

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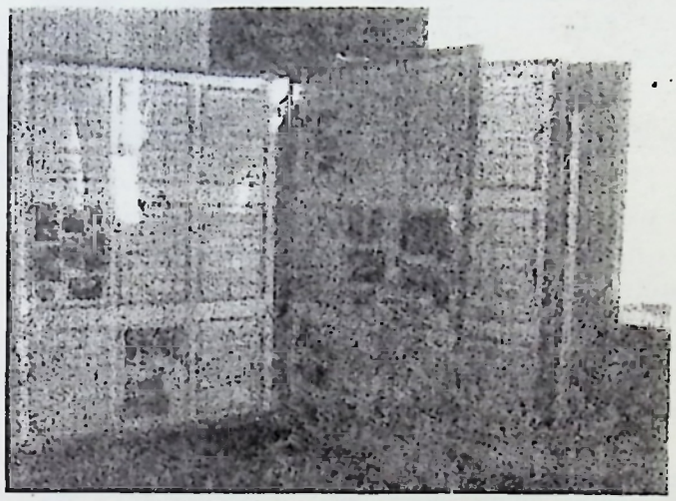
EXHIBITS

Lake Creek Historical Society celebrates early area pioneer families, local schools, tools and various artifacts of a by-gone age.

Some new displays we have added are about the Indian heritage of our area and Military history of our local residents.

We now have a wall mounted swing display that has maps showing area sites of schools, a grist mill, a manganese mine and sawmills. Other pages include the local history written by Barbara Hegne and Helen Barrow, which describe the schools in the area in greater detail, and of oral histories relating to 'Hunting stories'. As we get new information it will be added.



FUNDRAISERS

COOKBOOK**********

"Thank you" to those that have contributed some recipes for the up coming Cookbook. We need many more. So if you have some recipes please bring them by the hall and we can copy them and return the recipe to you, or you can write them out and either mail them or drop them off at the hall. The dead line for receiving the recipes is <u>AUGUST 1, 2009.</u>

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CALENDARS**********

We are planning to put together a Lake Creek calendar for next year. (2010) Hopefully, it will be available in November just in time for CHRISTMAS. We would like to get a count of how many of you would purchase one. The price of the calendar will depend on the response we receive. We are hoping to keep the price under $10.00. If you would like an announcement listed in the calendar please submit. This could be meetings, birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, family reunions etc. Please include the type of announcement(s), name(s) date(s), and times(s).
Example: Birthday-Julie Thompson Oct.21.

| | Yes, I plan on ordering a calendar(s).

Please announce:

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_____

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HONOR A FAMILY

We would like to honor a family for a few months. So if you would be interested in sharing your family items for one of the display cases for a few months, please call the office. 826-1513

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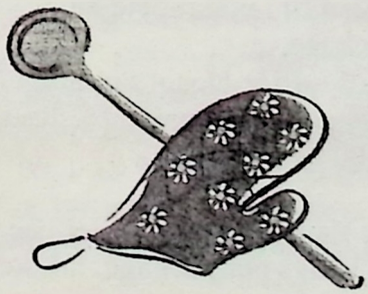

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to help in the office there are a few projects that need to be completed.

1. Copying the oral family histories
2. Put pictures in photo albums
3. Transcribing oral histories
4. Cleaning out file cabinets.
5. Glass cases need dusted and washed.

There is a need for volunteers for keeping the hall open on Saturdays. If you could help in this area, that would be wonderful.

LIBRARY

You will notice in the glass cabinet in the hallway that there are some family books and oral histories. When at the hall you are welcome to read these books. This is work in progress.

FOR SALE

If you have missed some articles from the past, all the old LCHS newsletters are for sale at .50 cents each or 11 for $5.00.

Jeannie Bruce photo note cards are going on Sale!!!

If you are in need of some Premium Picture Paper for your computer we have some for SALE.
Two packages of Kodak Premium Picture Paper-High Gloss- 81/2x11in. inkjet-acid-free.
15 sheets per package.
Three packages of Office Depot Premium Photo paper-High Gloss-acid free-inkjet-15 sheets per package. $7.00 per package

Genuine Hoover Vacuum Bags- never been opened. Type S-3 bags per package. Make offer.

THANKS AND MANY THANKS

We would like to say Thank You to all that have volunteered their time to keep the Pioneer Hall open. If you donated or cooked for one or more of our dinner events, helped with the dinner set-up, serving, and clean-up, were a speaker, are a hall host/hostess, helped with the road clean-up, sent in recipes for our Cookbook (we need more), cleaned the hall, washed windows, worked on displays, did office work or whatever, it is all greatly appreciated. Without everyone's help these dinners would not be the success that they have been.

THANK YOU FOR THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS

We would like to thank all of you whose efforts have helped to make our park and flower beds beautiful and ready for summer. Whether you raked leaves, mowed the lawn, weedeated, fixed the water system, or did the yard work we greatly appreciate your efforts.

Thanks to Cascade Nursery and Maxine Jackson who donated flowers to add that extra color to our park and flower beds. The spring flowers are blooming and ready for the upcoming weddings and other events. Again thanks to everyone!

A SLIPPERY SLOPE

I grew up in Lake Creek, Oregon. With fourteen children, my parents, Arlin and Garrel Millard, had little money for material things or toys so we, the boys especially, were accustomed to making our own fun.

One snowy, winter day my brothers, Kenny and Dick, came up with a labor saving and inventive way to have fun while getting wood in for the cook stove. The path leading from the woodshed to the back porch, where the wood was stored, was already icy. By packing snow on the path, then pouring water on it and letting it freeze in layers, they were able to get it to a slick smoothness. Loading their arms with wood, they could slide to the back porch, a distance of some 15 to 20 feet, deposit their load, then slide back for another.

After they had tired of this highly technical labor saving plan, they went on to other things, and the iced over pathway was soon forgotten, besides they planned to continue using it. Unfortunately, that was not to be.

It was dusk when Dad came home from work. Stopping at the woodshed, he filled his arms with wood before heading for the back porch. When he stepped onto the ice skating rink that used to be the woodshed path, his feet flew out from under him and wood went in every direction as he painfully and vocally slid to the back porch. After collecting his dignity and figuring out what had happened, Dad made the boys take an ax to the ice, destroying their skating rink so they didn't get as much use out of it as they had planned.

Although we didn't laugh then, I've gotten nearly hysterical about it many times since, but never while Dad was around!

This story was published in the Country Extra Magazine, March 2009. by Hazel M (Millard) Siebrecht, Albany, OR

by Hazel: My memories of Lake Creek are so vivid and it is still the place I consider home; I have a million good memories of living there. Well...a thousand anyway! We moved to Lake Creek in 1947, I was about 10 years old. I graduated from Eagle Point High School in 1955, found a job and moved to Medford, just before I turned 18. Dad and Mom moved from Lake Creek in 1959.

Our neighbors in those years were: Arthur & Ozzie Burrell, Ernest Hostettler, Gus Edler, Lloyd & Faye George, the Stokes, the Adkins family, Pecks and Walches. If my figures and memory are correct, we rode the school bus a distance of some 30 miles one way twice a day. We went up Salt Creek to deliver Maxine(Walch)Peile, then up North Fork to deliver one boy, whose name I forget, but I always resented having to go clear up there for one child!. I fought 'bus' sickness constantly because, more than likely, I couldn't resist trying to read a library book to pass the miles!

What a truly blessed childhood I and my siblings had. I doubt we realized it at the time, but surely do now as adults.

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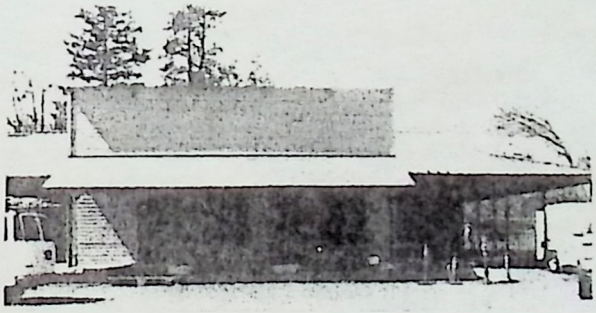
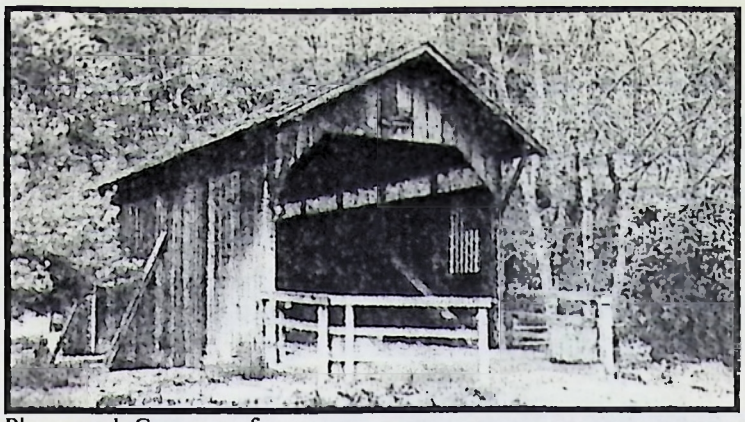


LAKE CREEK STORE REOPENING

Excitement is in the air. The community is all abuzz. The store is being rebuilt by the new owner of Cascade Ranch. It will be opening some time this summer. As with most country stores it will be the hub of the community. A place to see your neighbors, pick up items you forgot, and catch up on the 'news' of the creek. Everyone is anxiously looking forward to having a store in our community again.



Photograph Courtesy of
Jeannie Bruce

Photograph Courtesy of
Jeannie Bruce

Lake Creek Historical Society

Upcoming Events

The Lake Creek Historical Society has started a monthly donation dinner with speaker(s) event. We have already had two successful dinners. The first speaker was Watermaster Larry Menteer and the second dinner had representatives from the BLM, Forest Service and ODF & W and the Little Butte Watershed Council. Dinners start at 5:30 p.m.

May 27—Heritage Gardens; Lessons from the Hanley Farm presented by Marjorie Neal

June- (TBA)- GRAND REOPENING of the Lake Creek Store

July 29- OSU Extension-What to do with your summer bounty. Food Preservation and Safety

Aug (TBA)Genealogy- Charlene Brown, Rogue Valley Genealogical Society

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

[ ] Family----------$25.00
[ ] Individual----------10.00
[ ] Memorial----------100.00
[ ] Lifemember-------500.00
[ ] Donation of_____

Memorial is a new category. We will have a memorial board. You select the name (s) and dates that you want engraved on a 1" x 2 1/2" brass plate. –three lines per plate. Your/Yearly membership is included.

Name_____
Address_____
City_____State_____
Phone(day)_____(Evening)_____
E-Mail address_____

Please check the membership category at left and mail this form with your check to:
Lake Creek Historical Society
1739 So. Fork Little Butte Cr. Rd.
Eagle Point, OR 97524

Lake Creek Historical Society
1739 South Fork Little Butte Creek Road
Eagle Point, Or. 97524